

DISCUSSION OF THE CLAIMS

Support for amended Claim 27 is found at specification page 18, line 7 to continuing page, line 4.

Support for amended Claim 50 and 51 is found at specification page 18, lines 18-22.

Support for new Claim 55 is found in previously presented Claim 27 and at specification page 18, lines 13-27.

Claim 54 is canceled.

No new matter has been added.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the interview conducted on August 23, 2010 and the suggestions to further describe a process regarding “determining the concentration of the obtained compound Z in the reaction medium” in Claim 27. The Examiner further suggested to delete “comprising E1, X1, E1 and E2” in Claim 27 and “reaction together” in Claims 50 and 51 and to further disclose an agent for “denaturing an immunobond which exists between the antibody AC1 immobilized on the solid phase and the residue E1 of the compound Z attached to said solid phase, so as to release the residue from said solid phase” in Claims 50 and 51 to obviate the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. It is believed that the rejection of Claims 27-29, 31, 33-35, 37-38, 40, 42-45, 48-49 and 51-54 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is now obviated by the present amendment.

The rejection of Claims 27-29, 31, 33-35, 37, 38, 40, 42-45, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52-54 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph is traversed.

The Office noted that “[T]he claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention” (see Office Action, page 3). During the interview, the Examiner kindly suggested a further description regarding “determining the concentration of the obtained compound Z in the reaction medium” during the interview.

Thus amended Claim 27 further discloses that the immunoassay comprises at least
“bringing the reaction medium obtained at reaction time t into contact with a solid phase on which the first antibody AC1 is immobilized so as to obtain the attachment of the compound Z to said solid phase by immunobinding between the antibody AC1 and the residue E₁ of the compound Z;
removing the reaction medium;

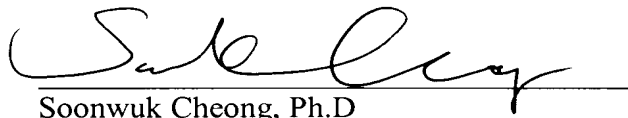
measuring the amount of compound Z attached to the solid phase; and
determining, on a standard range, the concentration of the obtained compound Z in the reaction medium at said time t, from the amount of compound Z thus measured” (also see specification page 18, line 7 to continuing page 19, line 4). In fact, as the Office recognized during the interview, Applicants disclose that the immunoassay further comprises “reacting a coupling agent with the antibody AC1 immobilized on the solid phase and the group E2 of the compound Z attached to said solid phase, to achieve one or more covalent bonds between the antibody AC1 and the group E2; and denaturing the immunobond which exists between the antibody AC1 immobilized on the solid phase and the residue E1 of the compound Z attached to said solid phase, so as to release the residue from said solid phase” (see specification page 18, lines 13-22, and Claim 37 and new Claim 55). Additionally, the Applicants show an inventive example describing the detailed process to determine the concentration of the obtained compound Z in the reaction medium (see specification page 38, line 11 to continuing page 39, line 9, Example 1). Thus, the disclosures in amended Claim 27 and the dependent claims therefrom are fully supported by the specification and enable one skilled in the art to follow an inventive process as in the present application.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Soonwuk Cheong', written over a horizontal line.

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